

# Creel Survey

April 18, 2011

Contributed by [Joe Hymer](#)

## Salmon/Steelhead

**Cowlitz River** – 104 bank anglers kept 27 steelhead and released 2 fish. 43 boat anglers kept 18 steelhead and 1 adult spring Chinook and released 2 steelhead. All the fish were sampled around the trout hatchery.

Last week, Tacoma Power recovered 700 winter-run steelhead, one summer-run steelhead and ten spring Chinook adults during five days of operation at the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery separator.

During the past week Tacoma Power employees released 57 steelhead into the Cispus River above the mouth of Yellow Jacket Creek, and seven winter-run steelhead into the Tilton River at Gust Backstrom Park in Morton.

River flows at Mayfield Dam are approximately 10,500 cubic feet per second on Monday, April 18. Water visibility is five feet.

**Mainstem Lewis River** – 4 boat anglers released 1 wild adult spring Chinook.

**North Fork Lewis River** – 19 bank anglers kept 1 steelhead. 2 boat anglers had no catch.

**Wind River** – At the mouth 4 boat anglers kept 1 adult spring chinook. 1 bank angler had no catch as did 3 bank anglers in the gorge.

**Drano Lake** – 5 boat anglers kept 1 adult spring Chinook. 2 bank anglers had no catch. Closed Wednesdays through June.

**Klickitat River** – 3 bank anglers had no catch.

**Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam** - In general – catches are increasing in the Cathlamet area where anglers on some days averaged an adult chinook kept/released per boat. Boat anglers in the Woodland area averaged over ½ fish per boat when including fish released. Fishing from the Washington shore remains slow. Tomorrow (Tuesday 19) is the last scheduled day to fish for spring Chinook on the lower Columbia.

**Effort remains largely unchanged from the previous week but is still substantially less than the same time last year.**

From April 14-17 we sampled 1,669 anglers (including 565 boats) with 205 adult and 2 jack chinook and 8 steelhead. Overall boat anglers averaged an adult Chinook kept/released per every 6.5 rods while bank anglers averaged one per every 44.6 rods based on mainly completed and incomplete trips, respectively.

One hundred eighty-one (88%) of the adult Chinook caught were kept. We sampled 132 (73%) of the fish kept. One hundred fourteen (86%) of the fish sampled were upriver stock based on Visual Stock Identification (VSI). All eight of the steelhead caught were kept.

A total of 673 salmonid boats and just over 700 bank anglers (including 9 sampled just below Bonneville Dam but unable to count during the flight) were found during the Saturday April 16 effort flight count. On the April 9<sup>th</sup> flight, just over 700 boats and nearly 850 bank anglers were counted.

On Saturday April 17, 2010, a total of 2,585 salmonid boats and over 1,500 bank anglers were counted.

**Bonneville Pool** – No report.

**The Dalles Pool** – Bank anglers are catching some spring Chinook. From March 16-April 17, there have been an estimated 656 angler trips with 24 chinook kept and 24 released.

**John Day Pool** – An estimated 15 adult hatchery spring Chinook were harvested in the John Day pool (Lake Umatilla) this past week by anglers. WDFW staff interviewed 93 anglers and sampled two hatchery spring Chinook. No wild Chinook or any other species were reported. Very few boat anglers are targeting on Chinook but several bank anglers are currently fishing the Oregon shore line below McNary.

*A Joint State hearing via telephone conference has been scheduled for 2 PM Wednesday April 20 to review the above Bonneville (Zone 6) recreational spring Chinook fishery. Currently the fishery is scheduled to remain open through April 24<sup>th</sup>.*

## **Sturgeon**

**Lower Columbia below Bonneville Dam** – Boat anglers are catching some legals. Slow from the bank.

**The Dalles Pool** – Bank anglers are catching some legals.

## **Walleye and Bass**

**The Dalles pool** – Boat anglers averaged 2.7 walleye kept/released per rod.

## **Trout**

**Silver Lake near Castle Rock** – 32 anglers had 2 bass. A lot of hours fishing but not much luck. Water temp 51F.

**Kress Lake near Kalama** – 31 anglers with 2 rainbows kept (14" and 15") and 16 released. Lots of effort, very slow fishing. Water temp 50F.

**Horseshoe Lake in Woodland** – 13 anglers with 1 rainbow (15"). A lot of effort, low harvest. Water temp 51F.

**Merwin Reservoir** – 37 anglers with 136 kokanee kept and 20 kokanee. Water temp 48F. Fish the top 6-9 feet of water.

**Klineline Pond** – 110 bank anglers kept 103 rainbows and 3 brood stock rainbows plus released 23 rainbows.

Monthly Sturgeon Harvest estimates:													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Totals:	%	As of	Guidelines:
Bonneville <sup>1</sup>	1040	587								1,627	81.4%	Mar. 31	2,000
The Dalles <sup>2</sup>	65	6	16							87	29.0%	Mar. 31	300
John Day	187	90	163							440	88.0%	Mar. 31	500
Current month sampled sturgeon kept:													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep				
Bonneville <sup>1</sup>	145	71								216		Apr. 17	
The Dalles <sup>2</sup>	11	1	5	3						20		Apr. 17	
John Day	37	10	29	15						91		Apr. 17	
<sup>1</sup> Bonneville Pool closed to sturgeon retention Feb 19.													
<sup>2</sup> John Day Pool closed to sturgeon retention April 10.													
Harvest estimates are updated monthly. All in-season estimates are preliminary. Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.													

WDFW Mid-Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary <sup>1</sup>

April 11 - 17, 2011

The following table is a summary of numbers of fish observed by samplers.

Samplers generally observe from 10% - 25% of total harvest.

Sturgeon															
Reservoir	Bank Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Subs	Leg Rel	Leg Kept	Over-size	2011 Cum Leg Kept	Combined Leg Kept	
Bonneville Pool						18							198	216	
The Dalles Pool	25	3		1		6	2	6	19				14	20	
John Day Pool						20							71	91	
Total	25	3		1		44	2	6	19				283	327	
Salmonids	Bank Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Wild Kept	Wild Rel	Hat Kept	Hat Rel	2011 Cum Leg Kept		Jacks Kept Week Cum
Bonneville Pool													2	2	
Chinook															
Coho													2	2	
Steelhead															
The Dalles Pool	90		1	1		14							8	22	
Chinook			1	1		4								4	
Coho															
Steelhead						10							8	18	
John Day Pool						7							8	15	
Chinook															
Coho															
Steelhead						7							8	15	
Walleye	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept		
Bonneville Pool													5	5	
The Dalles Pool						3	11	24	5	59			453	456	
John Day Pool													179	179	
Bass	Bank Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept	Boats	Boat Anglers	Rel	Leg Kept			2011 Cum Leg Kept		
Bonneville Pool															
The Dalles Pool						2								2	
John Day Pool													2	2	

<sup>1</sup> Quantities include both Washington and Oregon samples.

		Sturgeon	Salmonids	Walleye	Bass
Bonneville	Effort (% of 6-week average)	none	none	none	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none
The Dalles	Effort (% of 6-week average)	67%	197%	59%	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	0.74	0.02	2.67	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	0.03	0.01	2.46	none
John Day	Effort (% of 6-week average)	none	none	none	none
	Catch Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none
	Harvest Per Unit Effort	none	none	none	none

## Lower Columbia River mainstem sport sampling summary

04/18/2011

noon

Salmonid											Chinook								
Month/Week		Bank	Kept		Released		Steelhead				#	Boat	Kept		Released		Steelhead		
4/14-17	Sec.	Anglers	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.	Other		Boats	Anglers	Adults	Jacks	Adults	Jacks	Kept	Rel.	Other
Bonneville	1	62	0	0	1	0	0	0	0		44	104	7	0	1	0	0	0	0
Camas/Washougal	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		11	26	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
	3										94	202	20	0	1	0	0	0	0
Vancouver	4	75	6	0	1	0	0	0	0		96	214	42	0	5	0	0	0	0
Woodland	5	135	0	0	0	0	2	0	0		79	184	29	0	5	0	0	0	0
Kalama	6	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		7	16	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cowlitz	7										156	347	28	1	6	0	1	0	2 sublegal stg. rel.
Longview	8	66	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	8	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cathlamet	9	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	70	154	44	1	3	0	2	0	0	
private boats/bank charter	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
	10																		
Total		401	7	0	2	0	5	0	0	565	1268	174	2	22	0	3	0	2 sublegal stg. rel.	

# Boats	Boat Anglers	Kept Adults	Chinook Jacks	Released Adults	Jacks	Steelhead Kept	Rel.	Other
44	104	7	0	1	0	0	0	0
11	26	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
94	202	20	0	1	0	0	0	0
96	214	42	0	5	0	0	0	0
79	184	29	0	5	0	0	0	0
7	16	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
156	347	28	1	6	0	1	0	2 sublegal stg. rel.
8	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
70	154	44	1	3	0	2	0	0

Sturgeon																			
	<u>Sec.</u>	Bank		Sublegals		Legals		Oversize		Legals		#		Boat		Sublegals		Legals	
		<u>Anglers</u>		<u>Rel.</u>		<u>Rel.</u>		<u>Rel.</u>		<u>Kept</u>		<u>Boats</u>		<u>Anglers</u>		<u>Rel.</u>		<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Kept</u>
Bonneville	1	6		0		0		0		0									
Camas/Washougal	2											5	15	43		0	0		5
	3	1		0		0		0		0		2	5	11		0	0		0
Vancouver	4	1		0		0		0		0		5	15	13		0	0		0
Woodland	5	5		0		0		0		0		1	2	2		0	0		0
Kalama	6											2	6	4		0	0		1
Cowlitz	7											1	1	0		0	0		0
Longview	8	3		0		0		0		0		3	7	0		0	0		1
Cathlamet	9																		
charter	10																		
Cathlamet	10																		
<b>Total</b>		16		0		0		0		0		19	51	73		0	0		7

Walleye																			
	<u>Sec.</u>	Bank		Kept		Rel.		#		Boat		Kept		Rel.					
		<u>Anglers</u>		<u>Kept</u>		<u>Rel.</u>		<u>Boats</u>		<u>Anglers</u>		<u>Kept</u>		<u>Rel.</u>					
Bonneville	1																		
Camas/Washougal	2																		
	3																		
Vancouver	4																		
Woodland	5																		
Kalama	6																		
Cowlitz	7																		
Longview	8																		
Cathlamet	9																		
Chinook/Elochoman	10																		
<b>Total</b>		0		0		0		0		0		0		0					